

I understand that Sinclair Broadcasting has taken a decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation and, as I understand it, illegal.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Clearly Sinclair Broadcasting has the right, even the responsibility, to air political ads, but according to the fairness doctrine there should be some balance and equal access to attractive time slots.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.